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62.01

1947

# King's Nursery

Growers of  
ZOYSIA MATRELLA GRASS  
TREES, SHRUBS AND EVERGREENS  
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

BOX ~~xx~~ 1431  
AUBURN, ALABAMA  
Located on the Opelika-Auburn Highway



## New Lawn Grass for the South

By D. C. STUBBS

Replying to your communication of with reference to Zoysia matrella grass. We are attaching a printed copy of a leaflet which we think will give you some necessary information on this grass.

We have this grass at \$5.00 per yard, plus 2 per cent Alabama Sales Tax, F.O.B. Auburn, Alabama. We can ship this grass in any amount. (not less than one yard)

Zoysia may be set almost any time of year provided it can be watered during a drouth, but the best time is in the early spring. Small sprigs or 2-inch square clumps of sod should be set about 12-inches apart. The leaves must be exposed as it is killed if completely covered with soil. The sprigs are firmly set and the soil is pressed around the plants. Keep weeds out until Zoysia is established. If the sprig method is used one yard will plant about 1,200 sq. feet planted 12-inches apart. If planted in 1½ inch squares on yard planted 12-inches apart will cover 576 square feet, planted 8-inches apart will cover 207 square feet.

We know this is the best lawn grass for the Southeast, and possibly for the entire U.S.A. If further information is needed please write us and we will be glad to help you in any way possible.

Yours very truly,

KING'S NURSERY.

TCK:eh

**GUARANTEE**—We exercise every care to see that our products are handled in a manner that will keep them fresh and alive; we cannot guarantee that they will live or grow after they leave our hands. Any plant which proves to be something other than what it is sold for, will be replaced, but in no case a greater price be allowed for any plant replaced than originally paid.

All quotations are for immediate acceptance. No liability to us should stock be sold upon receipt of order or injury from frost or hail, also, should strikes or other causes prevent delivery.

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ZOYSIA MATRELLA GRASS

Growers of

King's Nursery

Telephone Opelika 692-7

21447

Telephone Auburn 134-R



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 Growers of  
**ZOYSIA MATRELLA GRASS**  
 TREES, SHRUBS AND EVERGREENS  
 WHOLESALE AND RETAIL  
 BOX 63  
 AUBURN, ALABAMA  
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## New Lawn Grass for the South

By. D. G. STURKIE

A dark-green, fine-leaved lawn grass that will grow both in the sun and shade has been the goal of lawn research workers in the South for years. Several years ago Zoysia matrella, a grass with these characteristics, was introduced from the Orient by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Zoysia produces a dense sod that feels like a rug. Unlike bermuda, it does not get weedy.

Zoysia is one of the first grasses to begin growth in the spring and one of the last to die in the fall. Furthermore, it is green for a much longer period during the year than bermuda grass. As Zoysia grows only three or four inches tall, it does not have to be mowed often. It stands a more dense shade than any lawn grass tested and grows well in the hot sun.

Zoysia is probably the best lawn grass for Alabama and similar states, provided the lawn is fertilized, watered, and well cared for. Its two major faults are its slow growth and inability to seed. It must be propagated vegetatively and requires about two years to establish a good lawn.

The Alabama Experiment Station has experimented with Zoysia since 1927. Results of numerous experiments are the basis for recommendations made in this article. At present there are a number of Zoysia lawns in Alabama.

Zoysia has not been killed by cold as far north as Washington, D. C., and stands climatic conditions found anywhere in the South. It is not killed by hot, dry summers, but makes very little growth during extreme drouth.

Zoysia grows on most soils in the South. In Alabama it made good stands on practically all the major soil types, ranging from sand to very heavy clay. It does not thrive under extreme acid conditions, so the soil should be limed for the best results. As Zoysia requires a fertile soil, a good procedure is to apply 10 pounds of basic slag or ground limestone and 5 to 10 pounds of 6-8-4 fertilizer per 100 square feet broadcast over the area at the same time it is being prepared.

Zoysia may be set almost any time of the year provided it can be watered during a drouth, but the best time is in the early spring. Small sprigs or 2-inch square clumps of sod should be set about 12-inches apart. The leaves must be exposed as it is killed if completely covered with soil. The sprigs are firmly set and the soil is pressed around the plants. Keep weeds out until Zoysia is established. If the sprig method is used one yard will plant about 1,200 sq. feet planted 12-inches apart. If planted in 1½ inch squares on yard planted 12-inches apart will cover 576 square feet, planted 8-inches apart will cover 207 square feet.

Zoysia may be set in a bermuda grass sod provided clumps of sod at least 2-inches in diameter are used. Dig out the bermuda sod and insert clumps of Zoysia sod. The Zoysia eventually crowds out bermuda.

Zoysia is usually sold by the square yard. One square yard of sod will set 324 feet if 2-inch squares of sod are used.

Mr. D. G. Sturkie is Agronomist at the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station.

This article was condensed from The Southern Agriculturist and printed in Your Farm Magazine.

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GUARANTEE—We warrant every seed to be true and to produce a crop in a manner that will keep them fresh and alive; we cannot guarantee that they will live or grow after they leave our hands. Any plant which proves to be defective other than what is said for will be replaced, but in no case a greater price be allowed for any plant replaced than originally paid.  
All orders are for immediate shipment. No holding to be made upon receipt of order or inquiry from foot or ball. Also, should articles or other names please delivery.

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GROWERS OF  
ZOYSIA MATRELLA GRASS  
TREES, SHRUBS AND EVERGREENS

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

BOX 63  
AUBURN, ALABAMA  
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## [ COPY ]

### ZOYSIA GRASS FOR LAWNS

Zoysia matrella No. 13521, commonly called Zoysia, was introduced from the Orient by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. It is undoubtedly the best lawn grass that has been found in Alabama. So far as is known, it is suited for use in all parts of the State.

Zoysia grass has a fine leaf, is dark green in color, produces a dense sod which feels like a rug and does not get as weedy as does Bermuda grass. It is one of the earliest grasses to begin growth in the spring and one of the last to die in the fall. It is green much longer than Bermuda grass (9 to 10 months of the year in central Alabama). It grows only 3 or 4 inches tall, does not have to be mowed often, and will grow under trees satisfactorily. Frequent mowing will help produce a more dense and attractive sod. It has stood a more dense shade than any other grass tested at the Alabama State Experiment Station.

**Caution:** This is not the same grass as the one sold under the name of Korean lawn grass (*Zoysia japonica*), the seed of which is available.

#### PREPARATION OF SOIL

Deep and thorough preparation of the soil is necessary in establishing a good lawn of Zoysia as is the case with other lawn grasses. Since Zoysia requires a good fertile soil for best growth, about 5 to 10 pounds of 6-8-4 fertilizer to each 100 square feet should be worked into the soil in preparation.

#### PLANTING WITH SOD

Since no seed are available Zoysia must be established by vegetative means. It can be propagated by small squares of the grass or by sprigs. These should be set about 12 inches apart in squares, being careful to leave the leaves of the grass above the ground, as the plants will not grow from underneath the soil. The plants should be firmly set and the area rolled and watered. It is necessary to give Zoysia protection from more rapidly growing weeds and grasses until it becomes established.

#### TIME FOR PLANTING

Zoysia may be planted at most any time during the year if moisture conditions are suitable or if water is

available. Under most conditions, best results are obtained by setting it in March or early April or in October.

#### CARE OF THE SOD

After Zoysia is dug, it should be kept moist, and it should be kept in the shade as much as possible until set.

#### CARE AND MAINTENANCE

**Mowing:** After the Zoysia lawn is established, allow the grass to grow for some time — to a height of about 3 inches before clipping. After the grass has reached this height, it should be mowed regularly with the mower set high until the grass is well established. Unless other grass such as Bermuda or Kentucky bluegrass is used with Zoysia very little mowing will be required. However, as stated previously, a better sod and more attractive appearance will result from continued regular mowing. This will also help Zoysia to overcome competition.

**Watering:** Zoysia grass lawns should be watered *thoroughly* once or twice a week during dry seasons until the grass is well established. Once a good sod is established very little watering will be needed. By planting this grass during wet seasons, it has been established and maintained without any artificial watering.

**Fertilizing:** A good program for fertilizing a Zoysia grass lawn is to start early in the spring with an application of a fertilizer such as 6-8-4 or 4-10-7 at the rate of 1 pound for each 100 square feet and repeat this application at intervals of 4 to 6 weeks.

**Note:** The major portion of this article was taken from material prepared jointly by Dr. D. G. Sturkie, Associate Agronomist, Alabama Experiment Station, Auburn, Alabama and Homer S. Fisher, Extension Landscape Gardener, Auburn, Alabama, for use in a general lawn bulletin which will be available later.

HOMER S. FISHER,  
Extension Landscape Gardener,  
Auburn, Alabama

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**Fertilizing:** A good program for fertilizing a Zoysia grass lawn is to start early in the spring with an application of a fertilizer such as 8-8-4 or 4-10-7 at the rate of 1 pound for each 100 square feet and repeat this application at intervals of 4 to 6 weeks.

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Zoysia may be planted at most any time during the year if moisture conditions are suitable or if water is



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Reprinted from *The Birmingham News-Age-Herald*

## New Shady Lawn Grass Gives Great Promise For South

By W. ELBRIDGE FREEBORN  
The Birmingham News-Age-Herald Garden Editor

RECENTLY A GREAT MANY EXPERIMENTS HAVE BEEN CARRIED ON WITH ZOYSIA MATRELLA, OR MANILA GRASS, and we are very enthusiastic about the possibilities this holds for shady lawns in this section of the South.

We have deliberately chosen this time of the year to write about this grass for since it is in the experimental stage we do not want our readers to leap in too enthusiastically for perhaps we are too enthusiastic ourselves and it may not prove as successful as we believe it will. A little history may be interesting. This grass was introduced from the Orient by the United States Department of Agriculture and samples were sent to many of the seed experiment stations. Among others a sample was sent to the Georgia Experiment Station located at Experiment, Georgia, and one to the Alabama Experiment Station located at Auburn, Alabama.

An unusual amount of work was carried on by the experiment station at Auburn, Ala., by Dr. D. G. Sturkie, and much enthusiasm and a great deal of work was also carried on there by T. C. King, an Auburn, Ala., nurseryman. It might be wise to quote a description of this grass as given by Dr. D. C. Sturkie in a recent bulletin issued by the Alabama Experiment Station, Auburn, Ala., in which he says that Zoysia grass is "undoubtedly the best lawn grass that has been found for Alabama."

He further says "Zoysia grass has a fine leaf, is dark-green in color, produces a dense sod which feels like a rug, and does not get as weedy as does Bermuda grass. It is one of the earliest grasses to begin growth in the Spring and is one of the last ones to die in the Fall. It is green much longer than Bermuda grass (nine to ten months of the year in Central Alabama). It grows only three or four inches tall, does not have to be mowed often and will grow under trees very satisfactorily. It has stood more dense shade than any other grass tested at the Alabama Experiment Station. It will also thrive in the hottest sun.

"Of course, like all plants, Zoysia grass has some weaknesses. The two major faults to be found with this grass are that it grows very slowly and there is no source of seed supply at the present time. From the sod it requires about two years to get a good lawn; under the same conditions Bermuda grass will produce one in two months.

"CAUTION—This is not the same grass as the one sold under the name of Korean lawn grass (*Zoysia japonica*), the seed of which is available."

Last summer when we first saw this grass at the Experiment Station, located at Auburn, Ala., we became very enthusiastic. However, we were even more enthusiastic after we had seen several lawns in the city of Auburn where this grass was seen growing under Chinese elms, black walnut, pear trees, water oaks, and in the full sun. Later, at Experiment, Ga., Dr. H. P. Stuckey showed us their experiments, among others, one planted in very dense shade beneath very large, old oaks. The next planting that we saw was on First Avenue in Birmingham, Ala., growing on very poor soil, beneath

one large black walnut tree. This was one of the prettiest lawns we have ever seen. The lawn was 100 per cent weedless.

We have also been in correspondence with people who have found it satisfactory in Louisville, Ky., and Coral Gables, Fla.

We find that Homer S. Fisher, extension landscape gardener, Auburn, Ala., has prepared some directions for its culture, and we quote:

"Deep and thorough preparation of the soil is necessary in establishing a good lawn of Zoysia as is the case with other lawn grasses. Since Zoysia requires a good fertile soil for best growth, about five to 10 pounds of 6-8-4 fertilizer to each 100 square feet should be worked into the soil in the preparation.

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"Since Zoysia is slow in spreading, it may be advisable to plant some other grass for coverage of the lawn area while the Zoysia is becoming established. Kentucky blue grass may be used if the Zoysia is planted in the Fall and Bermuda grass may be used with Spring plantings. It is essential that these grasses be kept mowed regularly so that the Zoysia will eventually crowd them out.

"Zoysia may be planted at most any time during the year if moisture conditions are suitable or if water is available. Under most conditions, best results are obtained by setting it in March or early April or in October.

"After Zoysia is dug, it should be kept moist, and it should be kept in the shade as much as possible until set.

"MOWING—After the Zoysia lawn is established, allow the grass to grow for some time—to a height of about three inches before clipping. After the grass has reached this height it should be mowed regularly with the mower set high until the grass is well established. Unless other grass such as Bermuda or Kentucky bluegrass is used with the Zoysia very little mowing will be required. However, as stated previously, a better sod and more attractive appearance will result from continued mowing. This will also help Zoysia to overcome competition.

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You will notice that mention is made above that no seeds are available and that Zoysia matrella must be established by vegetative means. While this is true, we have found from Dr. John Monteith, Jr., United States Golf Association, green section, Washington, D. C.; M. A. Hein, Agronomist, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Plant Industry, Tifton, Ga., that this variety has produced a limited amount of seed at Tifton and at Arlington, Md., but that to date no method has been found of seed production in commercial quantities.

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"Noyssia may be planted at most any time during the year if moisture conditions are suitable or if water is available. Under most conditions, best results are obtained by setting it in March or early April or in October.

"After Noyssia is dug, it should be kept moist, and it should be kept in the shade as much as possible until set."

"MOWING—After the Noyssia lawn is established, allow the grass to grow for some time—to a height of about three inches before clipping. After the grass has reached this height it should be mowed regularly with the mower set high until the grass is well established. Unless other grass such as Bermuda or Kentucky blue grass is used with the Noyssia very little mowing will be required. However, as stated previously, a better sod and more attractive appearance will result from continued mowing. This will also help Noyssia to overcome competition."

"WATERING—Noyssia grass lawns should be watered thoroughly once or twice a week during dry seasons until the grass is well established. Once a good sod is established very little watering will be needed. By planting this grass during wet seasons, it has been established and maintained without any artificial watering."

"FERTILIZING—A good program for fertilizing a Noyssia grass lawn is to start early in the Spring with an application of 8-8-4 or 4-10-7 at the rate of one pound for each 100 square feet and repeat this application at intervals of four to six weeks."

You will notice that mention is made above that no seeds are available and that Noyssia matrella must be established by vegetative means. While this is true, we have found from Dr. John Mendel, Jr., United States Golf Association, green section, Washington, D. C.; M. A. Hein, Agronomist, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Plant Industry, Tifton, Ga., that this variety has produced a limited amount of seed at Tifton and at Arlington, Md., but that to date no method has been found of seed production in commercial quantities.